

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3102

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

JCS WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

OSAF WASHDC

CINCUSAFE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

USNMR SHAPE

AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD

ESD LG HANSOM AB MA

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 2366

SECDEF FOR ODDR&E/IP/TWP, OASD/ISA/I&L. SECSTATE FOR EUR/
RPM. CSAF FOR ATF/RDPW. OSAF FOR SAFRD. AFSC FOR SD.
ESD FOR YWT.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, OCON, AWACS, MILI

SUBJECT: NATO AEW - UK POSITION

REF: STATE 078248 DTG 072236Z APR 77.

1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 4 BELOW THE TEXT OF UK PERMREP
KILICK'S APRIL 21 LETTER TO ACTING SYG PANSA ON THE UK
POSITION ON A MIXED NATO AEW FORCE.

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2. IN PARA 1 KILICK REFERS TO THE AMBASSADOR'S LETTER TO
PANSA WHICH INFORMED ALLIES OF THE US POSITION EXPRESSED
IN REFTEL.

3. IN ADDITION TO KILICK'S RATHER GENERAL STATEMENT ON
NAPO MANNING, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE UK HEAD OF THE NAPO
SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT DIVISION WILL, IN ABOUT A WEEK, BEGIN
WORK ON NIMROD MATTERS IN LONDON, BUT CONTINUE TO PROVIDE
SOME PART-TIME ASSISTANCE TO NAPO. ALSO, TWO UK MILITARY
MEMBERS OF NAPO, WHO HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR REASSIGNMENT,

WILL NOT NOW BE REPLACED BY THE UK. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE UK WILL ALSO REMOVE A UK MEMBER OF THE MANAGEMENT, CONTRACTING AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION. REGARDING THE PROGRAM MANAGER, (AIR COMMODORE SCRIMGEOUR) A UK SOURCE TELLS US THAT THE UK MIGHT BE WILLING TO ALLOW HIM TO CONTINUE IN HIS POSITION UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR, IF OTHER NATIONS SO DESIRE.

4. BEGIN TEXT:

21 APRIL 1977

HE MR P PANSA CEDRONIO, ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL, NATO

MY DEAR PAOLO,

1. MY UNITED STATES COLLEAGUE WROTE TO YOU ON 12 APRIL, SUPPORTING YOUR PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REVISED AWACS PROGRAMME TO MEET THE BALANCE OF THE NATO REQUIREMENT, WHICH CLEARLY REMAINS AS NECESSARY AS EVER, FOLLOWING THE UK DECISION TO PROCURE NIMROD AIRCRAFT TO PROVIDE CONTINUITY OF AEW COVER IN THE UKADR, AND IN THE EASTLANT AND CHANNEL AREAS.

2. MR. MULLEY MADE IT CLEAR IN HIS STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON 31 MARCH THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT

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WOULD WELCOME SUCH AN APPROACH AND WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO ASSIST THE ALLIANCE TO SECURE THE MAXIMUM MILITARY EFFECTIVENESS AND FLEXIBILITY FROM A MIXED AEW FORCE.

3. WE WILL BE GLAD TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATE CONTRIBUTION TO DISCUSSIONS IN ANY SUITABLE NATO FORUM ON THE MANY ISSUES THAT WILL NEED TO BE ADDRESSED TO ENSURE MAXIMUM INTEROPERABILITY AND COMPATIBILITY BETWEEN THE NIMROD AND E3A AIRCRAFT AND THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT INTERFACE, AND TO ASSIST IN THE OVERALL PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT. TO THIS END I AM ARRANGING FOR A NOTE ON THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NIMROD AEW SYSTEM TO BE CIRCULATED TO YOU AND TO MY FELLOW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES SHORTLY. I WOULD ASSURE YOU THAT, IF OUR OTHER ALLIES SO WISH, WE ARE VERY READY TO LEAVE MOST OF THE BRITISH STAFF ON LOAN TO THE NATO AEW PROGRAMME OFFICE IN POST FOR THE TIME BEING TO ENSURE CONTINUITY IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. MEANWHILE TECHNICAL DATA HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PROJECT OFFICE AND DISCUSSIONS HELD WITH THEM BY THE APPROPRIATE BRITISH STAFFS. END TEXT.

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